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Riportok Es Hirek Magyarorszagrol.

DISCUSSES LARGE-SCALE PURGE IN HUNGARY

The object of the purge which followed Liberation Day, 4 April, was not the reorganization of the Communist Party, but the liquidation of the bourgeois, peasant, and working class elements who refused to support the Soviet regime.

As early as last February, the State Security Authority began the work of "mapping" the state and other administration employees. This expression, imported from Moscow, means that each employee was to be thoroughly investigated as to his loyalty to the regime. The "mapping of the bourgeoisie, the peasants, and workers was completed by the State Security Authority last March.

Wholesale changes have already been effected in the army leadership. At the beginning of April, Commander in Chief Laszlo Kuthy, Maj Gen Imre Radvanyi, and Bela Major, ministerial department chief, who had been assigned to the Ministry of Defense as representatives of the Soviet Army, were all arrested and taken to the USSR. Dr Gustav Merenyi, the only medical corps general in the Hungarian Army, was arrested in April and secretly executed on 14 May.

Gustav Illy, acting chief of the general staff, was recently taken into custody, together with Maj Gen Kalman Revai, commandant of the Kossuth (formerly Ludovika) Military Academy. Laszlo Solym, former chief of the general staff and a loyal servant of Moscow, more recently head of the quartermaster and technical departments of the Hungarian Army, was likewise arrested.

It is reported that several officers and political leaders who had participated in the underground movement against the Nazis but subsequently broke off relations with the Communists have also been arrested. These include Jozsef Kovago, former mayor of Eudapest, who had been sentenced to 15 years by the Hungarian Nazis; and Bela Zsedenyi, former president of the temporary National Assembly. The latter was one of the leaders of the Hungarian Independent Party which was disbanded by the Communist regime.

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Between 20 and 26 May, a secret conference was held in the Ministry of the Interior with the police captains. It is rumored that this conference is to be followed by an unparalleled wave of terrorism. At the end of May, hundreds of employees were discharged from the ministries and other administrative agencies.

At the party meeting of 31 May, Jozef Revai, deputy secretary-general and philosopher of the Hungarian Communist Party, and Erno Gero announced that the sharpest fight was to be conducted against the following groups: the bourgeoisie; the right-wing Social Democratic workers, peasants, and intellectuals; the "clerical reaction;" former Horthy army officers; Western imperialist agents; and workers sabotaging construction and communications.

At the beginning of June, all police captains and detachments received the following secret order:

"You are instructed to complete by 1200 hours, 10 June 1950, detailed reports arranged according to towns, on the following persons: former ministers, undersecretaries, ministerial officers, aristocrats, bankers, kulaks, and holders of medium-sized landed properties, merchants, manufacturers, independent artisans, mill owners, participants in opposition and peasant movements, former Social Democratic Party leaders, prison guards, judges, prosecutors, military instructors, priests, and Protestant clergymen.

"Detailed personal data, present occupation, party affiliation, financial situation, and present political attitude must be reported for each person falling into the foregoing categories."

RAKOSI AND KALLAI MAY GO -- New York, Riportok Es Hirek Magyarorszagrol,
29 Jul 50

Reports continue to circulate in Budapest to the effect that Rakosi's star is on the decline. The most recent sign pointing in this direction was the fact that the Hungarian Communists were represented by Revai instead of Rakosi at the Berlin congress of party leaders.

Gyula Kallai, Minister of Foreign Affairs, is mentioned as another victim of the forthcoming purge. Kallai is a "non-Moscovite" who had a violent clash with Revai. It is rumored that Kallai's successor would be Elek Bolgar, professor at the University of Rostov, who is now functioning as an envoy.

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